

KCC 4758 (K-C 15,646A)
PATENTREMARKS:

This letter is responsive to the Office action dated August 28, 2003. Claims 37-42 are hereby withdrawn from consideration.

I. Restriction Requirement

The Office action requires restriction to one of the following:

Group I - Claims 1-36 and 46-49, drawn to A Disposable Absorbent Article; and

Group II - Claims 37-45, drawn to A Method of Making an Absorbent Body.

Applicants respectfully submit that the groupings set forth in the Office action may be in error. More specifically, claims 43-45 of the application are drawn to A Disposable Absorbent Article and not to A Method of Making an Absorbent Body. It is therefore submitted that claims 43-45 are more appropriately classified in Group I and that Group II is limited to claims 37-42. The following elections are made on this basis. In the event that the Examiner maintains that claims 43-45 should still be classified in Group II, the undersigned respectfully requests a phone call from the Examiner to further discuss such a classification.

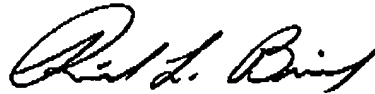
In response to the restriction requirement, applicants hereby elect Group I, corresponding to claims 1-36 and 43-49, without traverse, for continued prosecution on the merits. Claims 37-42 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

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II. Election of Species

The Office action further requires an election from among the species of Fig. 3, Fig. 5 and Fig. 7 of the application. In response to the Examiner's request to elect species, applicants elect the species of Fig. 5 for further prosecution. Within the elected Group I claims, claims 1-9 and 19-27 read on the elected species.

Respectfully submitted,



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